

*Peter A. Cunningham*

INPUT Software Support Conference, London, 29th September 1994

# Trends in European Software Support

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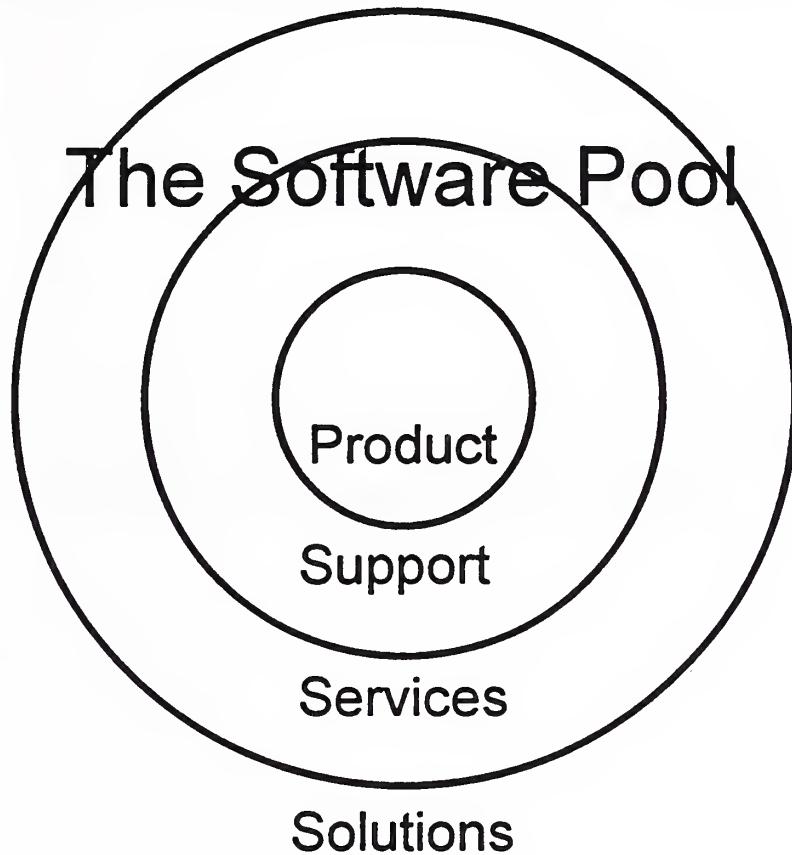
# Agenda

- Trends in software support
- Perspectives from:
  - ICL
  - CA
  - Hoskyns
  - Oracle
- Discussion
- Conclusions & recommendations

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Notes:





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## Trend

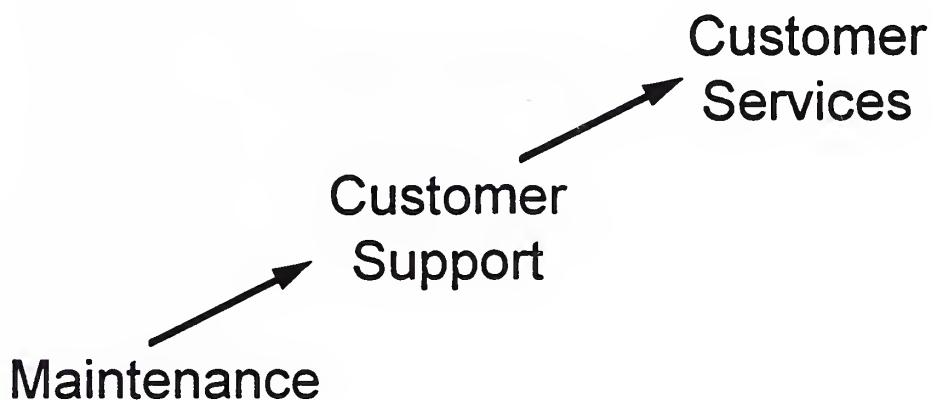
- Push down on product pricing
- Push out towards services

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Notes:



# Trend



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Notes:



## Traditional Maintenance

- High margin
- Closed
- Cost centre

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Notes:



# Customer Services

- Lower margin
- Competitive (open)
- Profit centre

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Notes:



## Conflict Resolution

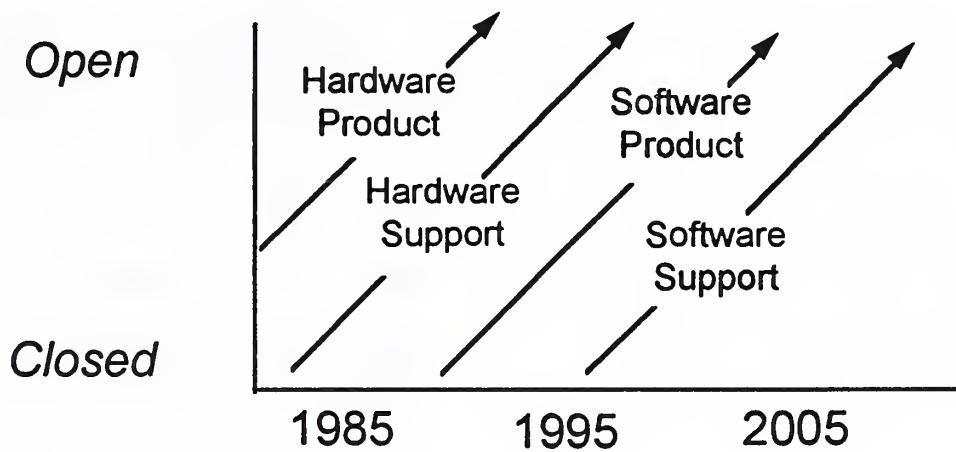
Old	• Customers used to pay for conflict resolution in <i>product</i> price
New	• Customers pay for conflict resolution in <i>service</i> price

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Notes:



# Software Support Enters the Open Market



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## Notes:

"Open" implies that the buyer has a choice of suppliers

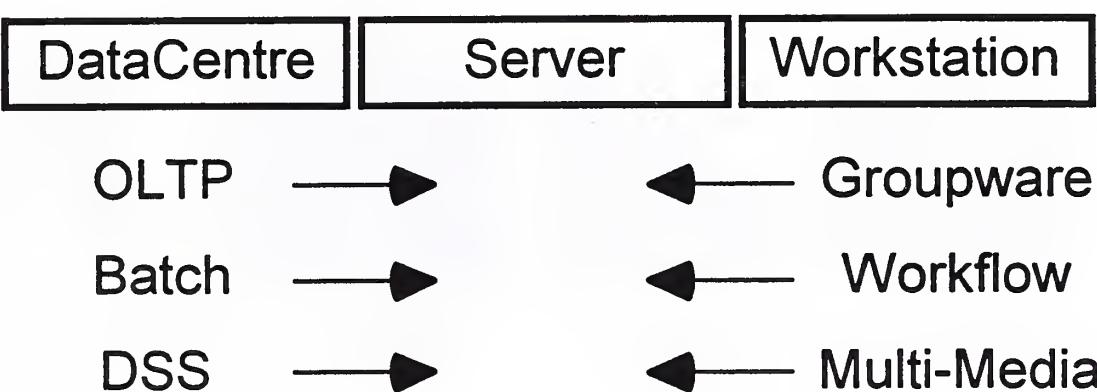
The key success factors in the open software support market will be: tailored service levels, value-based pricing and delivery cost containment.

To exploit the emerging open support market, software and service vendors will need to implement the following recommendations:

- Introduce a portfolio of software product support services and service levels to match both current and future individual customer needs
- Actively price, promote and sell to customers the benefits and value of the support expertise from the vendor and networked partners
- Achieve continuous productivity improvements in the delivery of support services to counter price erosion from more open competition



# Software Product Vendors Focus on the Server Market



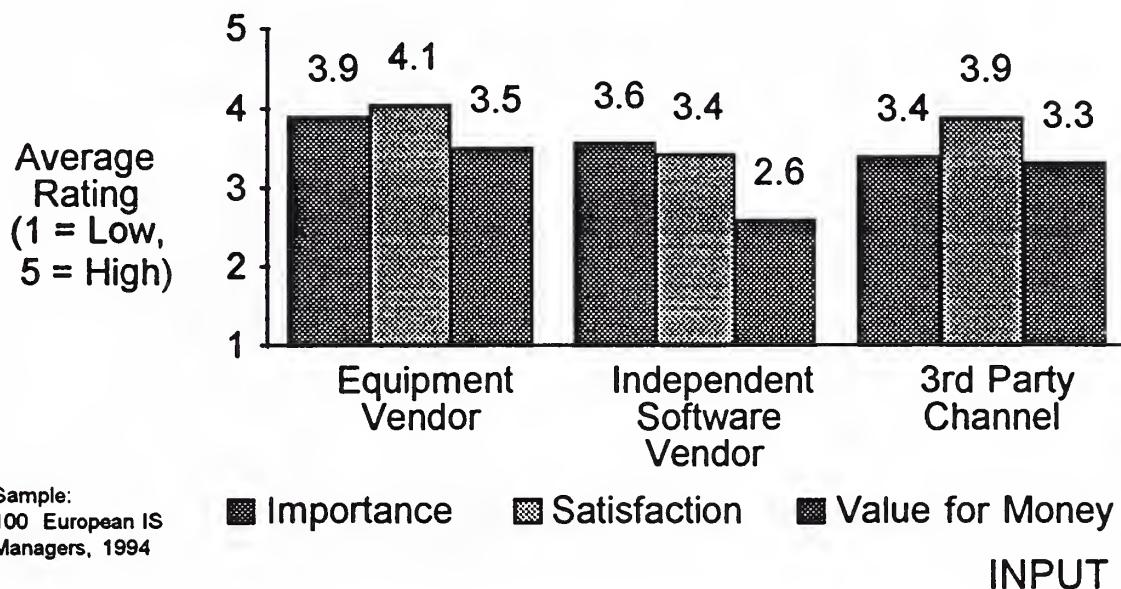
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## Notes:

- Datacentre vendors and workstation vendors focus on the server market
- Each group sees server product vendors controlling buyers (e.g.. Oracle, Sybase)
- Datacentre mindset is on security/accuracy
- Workstation mindset is flexibility/ease-of-use
- Clash of cultures will occur in server market
- Different pricing and different support channels



## Opinions on Support Vendors



### Notes:

The market for support is becoming more open and customers are being exposed to more innovative offerings from competitors.

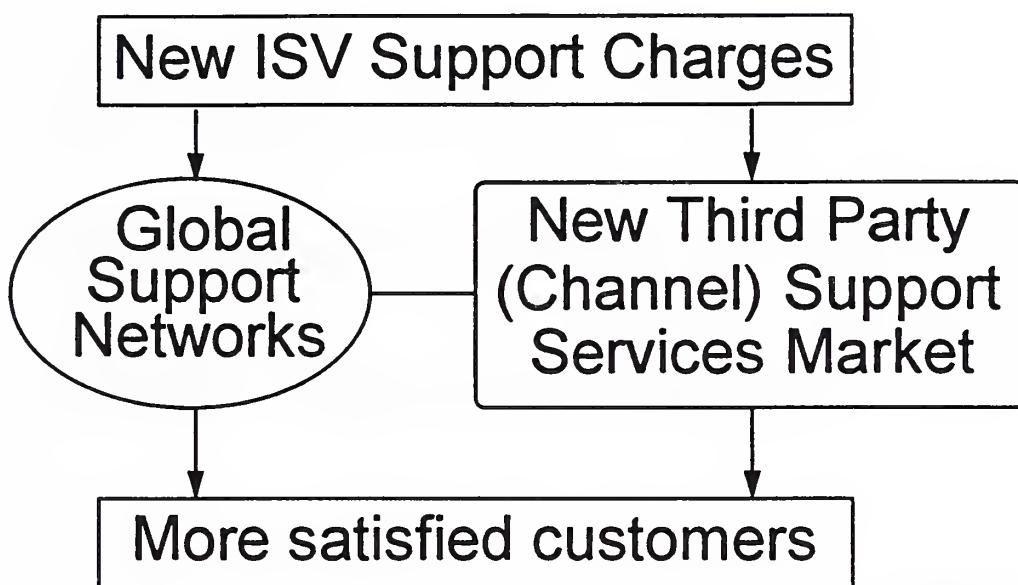
As the exhibit shows, users do not have a high opinion of the value for money of their existing support providers.

Users still show a preference for support from equipment vendors compared to independent third parties or ISVs (independent software vendors).

ISVs rated the lowest satisfaction, as might be expected, since most ISVs still focus on selling their products rather than making money from support.



# Making New Support Markets



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## Notes:

Independent software product vendors (ISVs) are turning more and more to channel partners in the expectation that they can more readily meet customer demands for support services on the ISV's software products.

A major change is underway to raise customers' opinion on the value of support and to reduce the inherent cost of supplying support services. This is resulting in the creation of a whole range of new support service opportunities for channel partners.

In many cases it is the market-leading software product vendors who are also leading the way in the introduction of innovative improvements to their support operations and to the marketing of these services.

Of course the vendor's motive is to increase customer satisfaction so that users will continue to buy more products.



# Global Support Innovations

- SAP - proactive support *Watchman*
- Microsoft - peak load outsourcing
- Olivetti - support skills database

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## Notes:

Many leading ISVs are planning to leverage their own scarce support skills with third-party resources. If they don't succeed then lack of support skills is likely to be the primary limiting factor in growing market share for their products.

All the largest vendors have a global support network in place that they expect to exploit and share with both partners and customers.

The relationship between the key business factors is shown in Exhibit as both PC software ISVs and data centre ISVs move to create a support services market for their trading partners. Their primary motive is to increase demand for more product.



# Who will be the Future Services Market Leaders?

- Old model:  
**Services = Local Experts**
- New model:  
**Services = Networked**  
(geography-independent)

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## Notes:

Services companies used to base their business on their own ability to develop custom software as a solution to a business application need.

Today this approach is being replaced with services which integrate existing software products to provide solutions.

The service is both more oriented to product technology and to business applications knowledge and implementation skills.

Arming the user with the right tools for his job rather than writing software.

A networked service organisation leverages:

- The vendor's product experts
- Partners' experts (e.g. industry or application)
- Customers' experts (self-help)



# Issues in Software Support

- Users don't measure value
- Mismatched to needs
- Staple vendor revenue streams
- Global support networks
- Franchising local support
- Proprietary to open competition

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Notes:



# New Individual Skill Profile for Client/Server

Know something of many



General  
Architectural  
Knowledge

Individual  
Specialisms

T for Training

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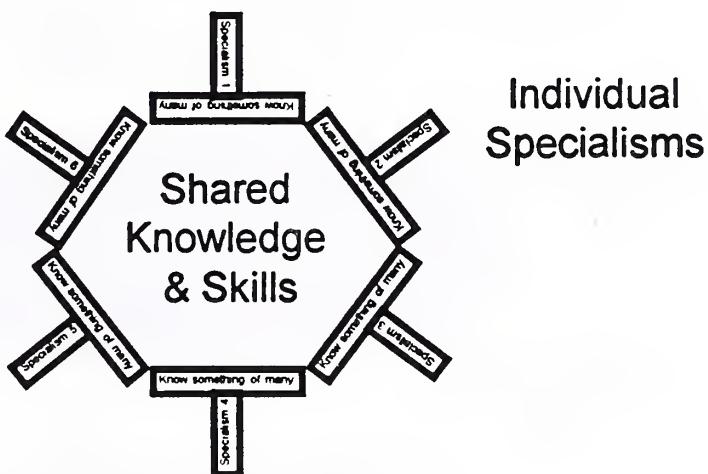
## Notes:

INPUT's research into training and re-skilling for client/server reveals:

- Customers are at pilot stage, while vendors are much more advanced in training their own staff
- Vendors are launching training portfolios
- Training and consulting conflicts can arise between different parts of a vendor's operations
- Promised C/S roll-out is still to come
- New c/s training profile for individuals and teams is shown in Exhibit



# New Team Skill Profile for Client/Server



T for Teamwork

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## Notes:

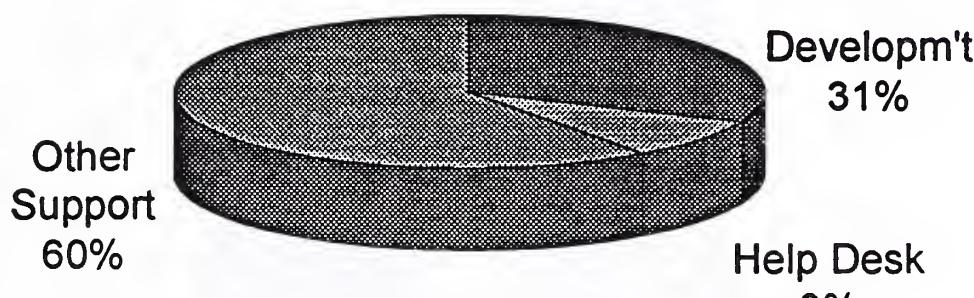
### Re-skilling for Client/server

- New skill profile for the individual  
also applies to teamwork
- Team members share a common  
understanding of the overall  
architecture for client/server, but  
bring their own specialist skills to  
the team



# The Big Support Opportunity

## In-House IS Staff Expenditures Europe 1994



Total \$74 Billion

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### Notes:

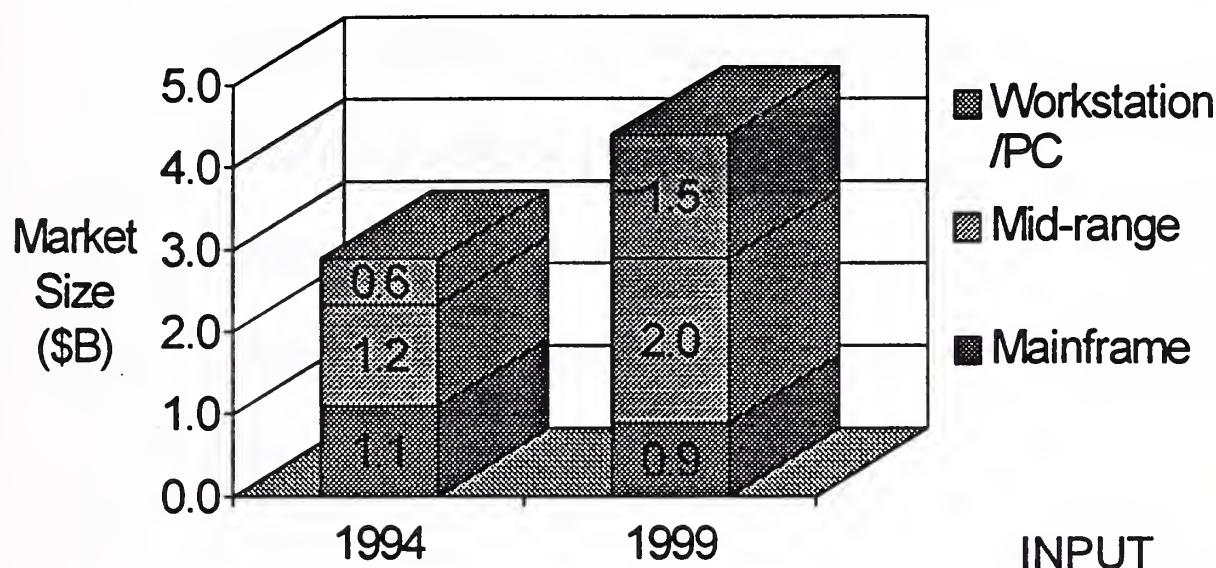
- The primary opportunity for vendors of support services lies in the activities currently carried out in-house by the IS department staff
- Internal hotline services account for about 9% of expenditure
- New developments typically gain less than one third of in-house staff attention, as the majority work on supporting operational software systems

too small  
\$15B total

only count dedicated



## Software Product Support Europe 1994-1999



### Notes:

- Decline in mainframe spending is in spite of wider use of applications software products
- Forecast assumes that the support value-for-money message is well marketed and accepted by desktop users
- Growth in the overall support market is predicted at 5% per year for systems software and 13% per year for applications products.



## Vendors' New Objectives for Support Services

- Offer choice of support services
- Match customer's situation
- Increase user expertise
- Promote the value of support
- Relate *price* to *value*

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Notes:



# ICL Europe Desktop Software Support

*work with Help Desk Institute*

Rhion H Jones  
Business Development Manager  
ICL Europe CS

Frankfurt • London • New York • Paris • San Francisco • Tokyo • Washington  
ICL INPUT

## Notes:

Rhion Jones joined ICL in 1980 after a career in personnel management with Ford and Welsh Water.

He has 10 years of experience in developing IT services business.

Among his previous roles has been the worldwide measurement of customer satisfaction, the development of telemarketing and catalogues businesses and the acquisition of a major TPM for ICL.

Today he specialises in new software services and is driving ICL's bid for industry leadership in IT *helpdesk* services.



## In Context

### ICL

- £2.5 Bn Revenues
- Profitable
- Acquisitions e.g.. NOKIA

### Services

- Independent of *industry systems* and *volume products*
- Growth outside the base
- Skills .... and technology

### Desktop

- 40 million PCs in Europe
- Client/server growth
- Volume and complexity

ICL

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Notes:



# Multi-Vendor

By Definition:

**“In service terms .... no-one owns the desktop”**

D I Y

ICL

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Notes:



# The Need for Better Support

- Poor quality end-user services
- Cost of fragmentation
- Slow payback on new technologies
- Exploitation lag

**Wanted: SKILLS .... on the ground**

ICL

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Notes:



# ICL and Microsoft

- Pan European Solution
- Provider and Authorised Support Centre
- Agreement

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Notes:



# Core Competencies

Software Suppliers

Service Specialists

- Marketing
- Technology
- Development
- TTM
- Sales Channel
- Product Supply

- Customer care
- Service Management
- Skill Mix
  - Depth
  - Breadth
- Capacity/Volume
- HELPdesks

ICL

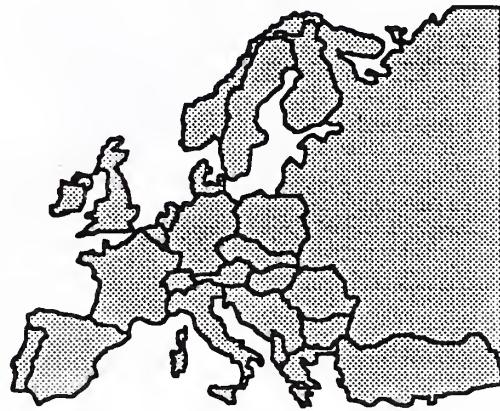
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Notes:



# The Delivery Vehicle !

Microsoft ASC  
in 15 countries  
in Western Europe  
and Nordic Countries



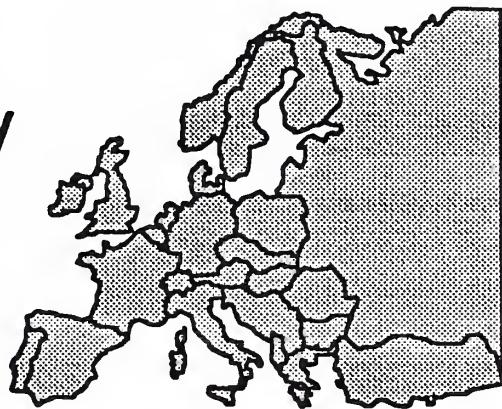
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Notes:



# Pan-European Skills Availability



- Microsoft Certified Professionals in every Country
- Microsoft Certified Systems Engineers  
Planned rapid Growth
- International skills Mobility
- Microsoft Focus

ICL

SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT

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Notes:



## HELPdesks - A Key Service Delivery Capability

- European Companies spend \$450 per workstation on providing HELPdesk support Internally
- ICL Focus on
  - Supporting or managing customers' own *HELPdesks*
  - Offering direct ICL alternative
- Exploit growing demand for JIT Training

ICL

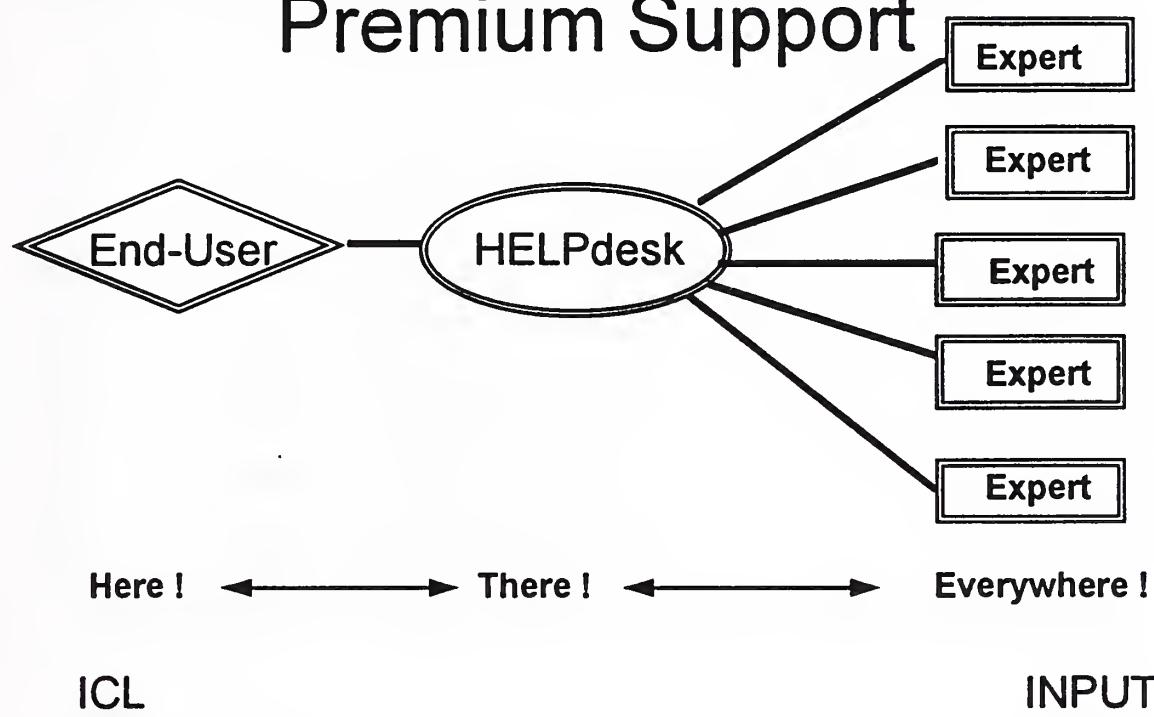
" How do I do....this ? "

INPUT

Notes:



# Desktop Conferencing for Premium Support



Notes:



## ICL Investment In HELPdesks

- SHOWCASE HELPdesk Programme
- Exploitation of Knowledge Tools
- World-wide Standards
- Open Supplier Policy  
re HELPdesk Tools
- Innovative Marketing

ICL

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Notes:



## Issues

- In-house Vs Outsourcing
- Chargeability !
- Vendor co-operation to deliver optimum service to customers

ICL

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Notes:



# Computer Associates Software Support

**Billy Keefer**  
Customer Services  
Manager, CA

Frankfurt • London • New York • Paris • San Francisco • Tokyo • Washington  
Computer Associates INPUT

#### **Notes:**

Billy Keefer entered the computer industry in 1977 with a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Christian University.

He joined CA in 1979 as a systems engineer supporting CA products on DOS/VSE and VM.

In 1984 he became UK support manager for CA's mainframe system products

Today he is responsible for managing the UK support of all CA products, systems, finance/manufacturing, database and application development across mainframe, mid-range and micro platforms.



# Computing Architecture for the 90s

## Guiding Principles

- Preserve clients' investments
- Endorse & enhance industry standards
- Promote integration
- Extend & enhance distributed processing
- Enable portability

Computer Associates

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Notes:

Too products



# Computing Architecture for the 90s

## Service Layers

*Interface*

- User I/F & visualisation services
- Integration services
- Distributed processing services

Computer Associates

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Notes:



# Responsibility

“Support the client base”

*no profit centre*

Computer Associates

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Notes:



# Support Organisation

- Mainframe

- Midrange

Difference

- Micro

→ more complex

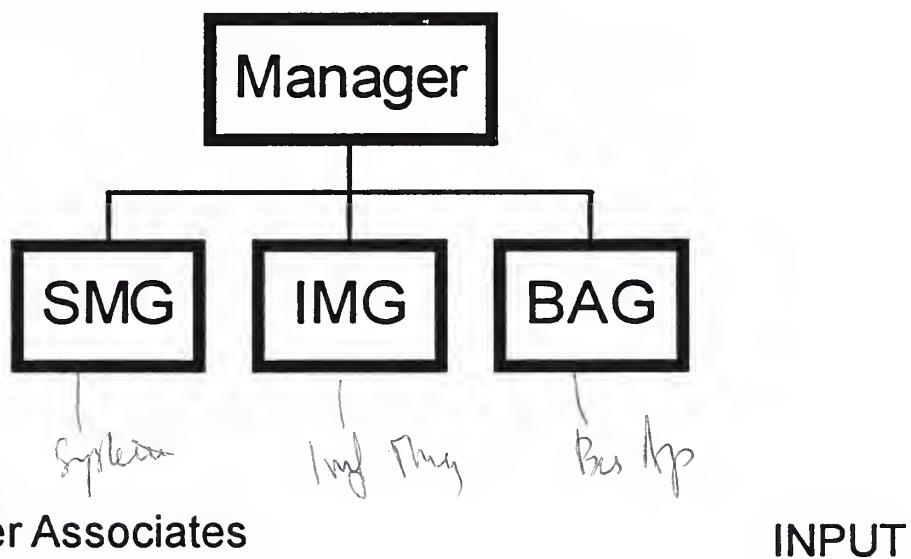
Computer Associates

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Notes:



# Support Organisation



Notes:

1. Human

• Sneaker net

• Broadcast  
• One data base - one center



## Client Services

- Help desk response
  - Severity 1 0.5 hours
  - Severity 2 2 hours
  - Severity 3 4 hours
  - Severity 4 24 hours
- Target of 100% - currently at 99.12%

Computer Associates

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Notes:

service is one to one.



# Client Services

- Total Client Care
  - 1. Total Product Care
  - 2. Total Information Care
  - 3. Total Order Care
- Computer Associates Partnership Summary (CAPS)

Computer Associates

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Notes:



# Hoskyns Software Support

John Sherington  
Customer Services Manager  
Hoskyns Application Products

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Hoskyns

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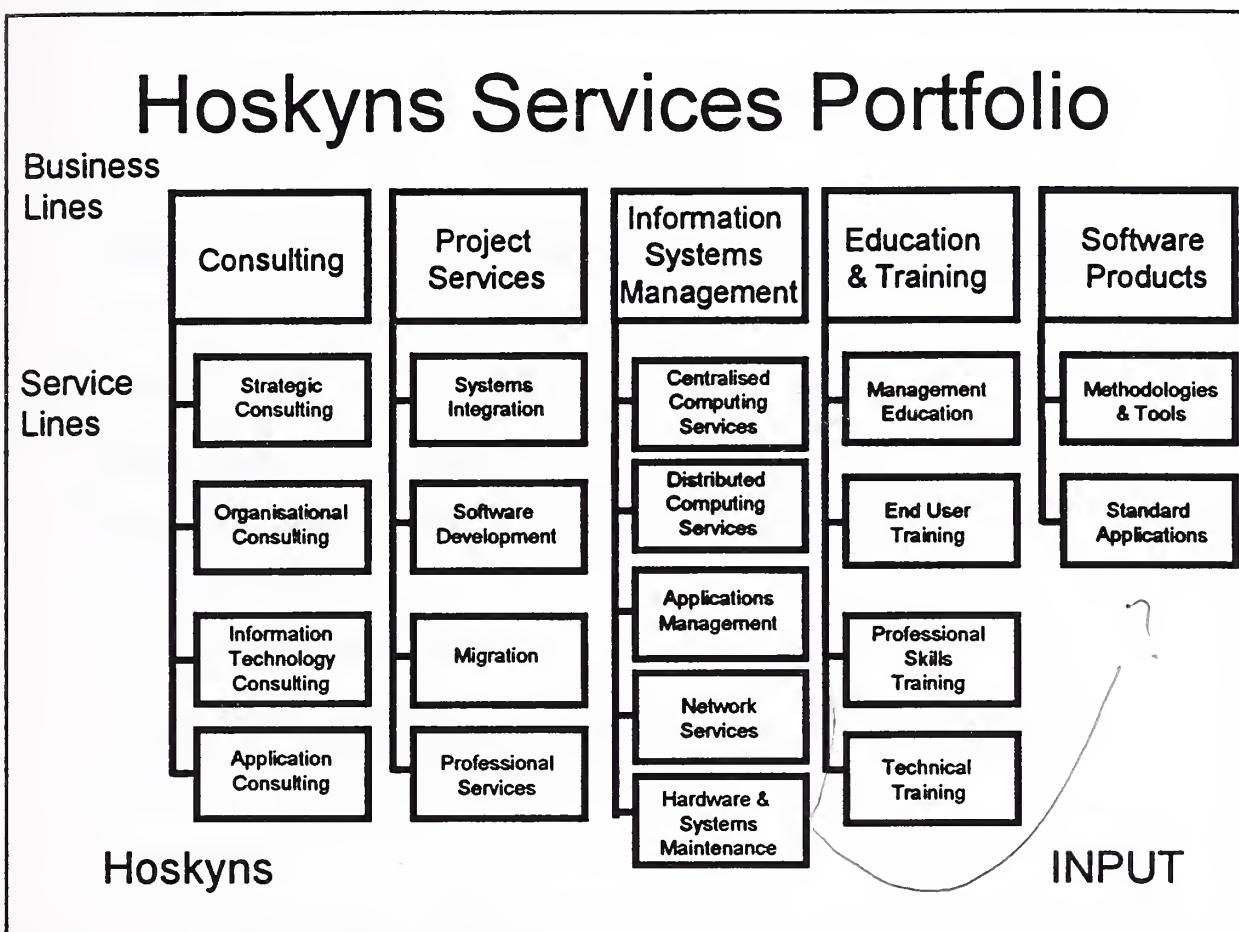
## Notes:

John Sherington is customer services manager for the applications products division of Hoskyns.

He has spent 11 years in the IT industry and manages the delivery of all product-related services from the UK.

Hoskyns mid-range applications user-base is primarily on AS/400 and DOS/Windows platforms.





Notes:



## Scope

- >500 customers serviced from UK service centre
- >15 products supported
- Platforms: AS/400, PC, UNIX, VAX
- Services: consultancy, training, CS & P, help desk
- Products & services offered in a multiplicity of partnerships
- ISO9000 certified
- Products & services offered as part of "bigger" deals i.e.. AM desktop projects

Hoskyns

*App m plant.*

INPUT

Notes:



## Features of HAP Services

- Close working relationships with our suppliers
- Giving customers a fair hearing
- Standard support vs value-added
- Application and roll-out of best practice
- Problem ownership - PROCEDURE BASED.
- Training is key = Help desk maintaining pro-active for training.

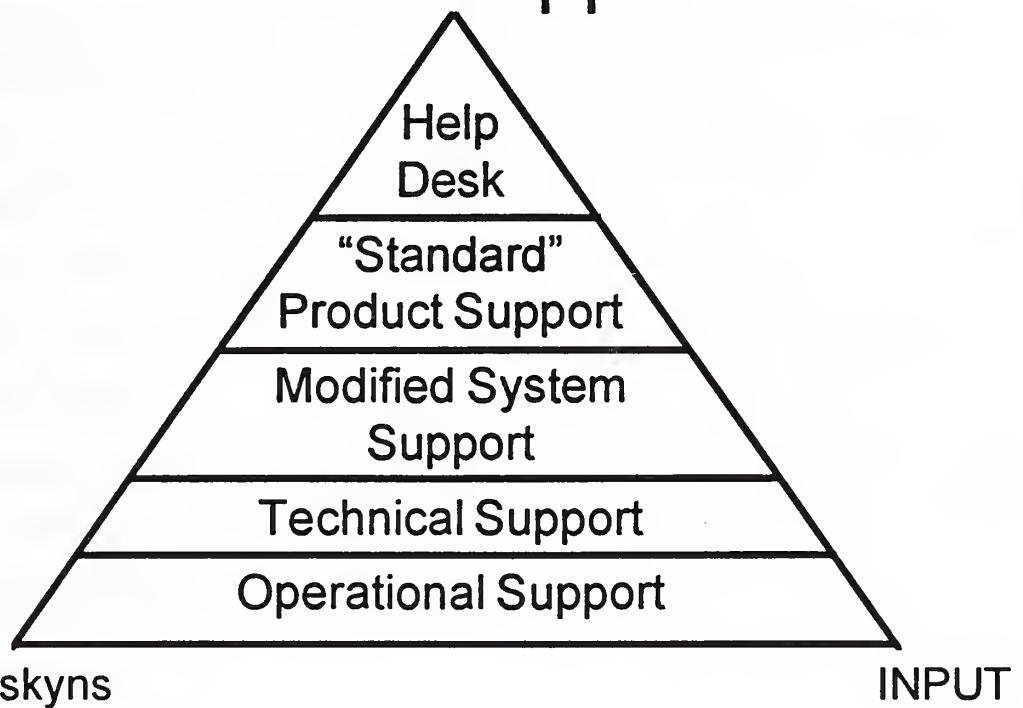
Hoskyns

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Notes:



## “Total” Support



Notes:



## Futures

- Single supplier for ALL services gives continuity:  
AM/Desktop/Product Support/Tech etc.
- More competition in the service marketplace as  
margins tighten elsewhere — RISK
- Responsive customer service will be key
- More focus on *Quality* service as a discriminator
  - ISO9000
  - Total Quality Management
- Service providers will need a broader range of skills  
as users become more empowered
- Key elements won't change

Hoskyns

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Notes:



# Oracle Worldwide Customer Support

## *A World of Choice*

Roy Hanif  
Customer Services  
Marketing Manager

Frankfurt • London • New York • Paris • San Francisco • Tokyo • Washington  
Oracle

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### Notes:

Roy Hanif is a specialist in computer services marketing.

As a management consultant he has carried out strategic assignments for many of the leading international vendors.

He was recently appointed customer services marketing manager for Oracle Corporation UK Ltd.

Over ten years in IT sales and marketing includes:

- sales management at Rank Xerox,
- sales & marketing management at Siemens and
- strategic services marketing at INGRES



## Situation Today

- Market trends
- Making business decisions
- Customer support organisation
- Customer care programmes
- TQI policy

Oracle

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Notes:



## Coming Soon

- Improving the POC
- Increased research and NPD

Oracle

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Notes:



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# Software Support Conclusions

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Notes:



# INPUT's Software Support Research

## Quantitative

- Forecasts  
16 countries
- Vendor revenue analysis
- User needs

## Strategic Perspectives

- New open competition
- Client/server training
- Vendor strategies

## Support Services

- Consultant access
- Briefings
- Info centre
- Client meetings

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Notes:



## Software Support Future Research Areas

- Helpdesk services, best practice
- Multi-vendor support, case studies
- Pricing strategies and tactics
- Legacy software product support
- Software product release management

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Notes:



## Keys to Success

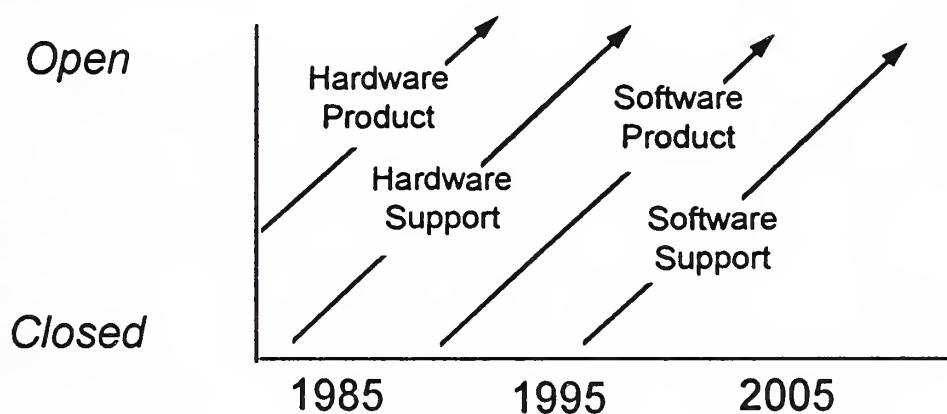
- Use of technology
- Pricing
- Customer sensitivity
- Services (solution) orientation
- Standards

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Notes:



## Software Support Enters the Open Market



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### Notes:

The key success factors in the open software support market will be:

- tailored service levels,
- value-based pricing and
- delivery cost containment.



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  - Vertical industry analysis
- Business Integration Markets
- Client/Server Applications and Directions
- Client/Server Software
- Outsourcing Markets
- Information Services Vendor Profiles and Analysis
- EDI/Electronic Commerce
- U.S. Federal Government IT Markets
- IT Customer Services Directions (Europe)

### SERVICE FEATURES

- Research-based reports on trends, etc. (Over 100 in-depth reports per year)
- Frequent bulletins on events, issues, etc.
- 5-year market forecasts
- Competitive analysis
- Access to experienced consultants
- Immediate answers to questions
- On-site presentations
- Annual conference

### DATABASES

- Software and Services Market Forecasts
- Software and Services Vendors
- U.S. Federal Government
  - Procurement Plans (PAR)
  - Forecasts
  - Awards (FAIT)
  - Agency Procurement Requests (APR)
- Commercial Application (LEADS)

### CUSTOM PROJECTS

For Vendors—analyze:

- Market strategies and tactics
- Product/service opportunities
- Customer satisfaction levels
- Competitive positioning
- Acquisition targets

For Buyers—evaluate:

- Specific vendor capabilities
- Outsourcing options
- Systems plans
- Peer position

### OTHER SERVICES

Acquisitions/partnerships searches

### INPUT WORLDWIDE

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